

# *Pearlie Taylor*

## **Biography**

**P**earlie Taylor is the daughter of a sharecropping family who migrated to Chicago, Illinois in 1945 from her birthplace of Vance, Mississippi, where she continues to reside. She was drawn to art at an early age. While in the third grade she learned that she could make money by selling drawings she created on notebook paper for five cents each to classmates. When a high school art teacher used one of her paintings as a model for other students, this raised her awareness in her raw abilities causing her to embrace the study of art with a deeper intensity.

Pearlie married and raised a family of five while pursuing a career with Sears Roebuck Company of Chicago. She worked as an Advertising Representative and a typographer (a male dominated field at the time) in the catalog advertising department where she came in contact with copywriters, revamp and layout artist. This art environment was compelling in her decision to continue art studies at night school, retiring from Sears after 20 years.

Pearlie and her husband opened a UPS Store Franchise in 1997. After his death in 2002 she subsequently sold the business and retired to become a full time artist.

She has studied at The American Academy of Art in Chicago and the South Side Community Art Center under the mentorship of Gerald Sanders. This art center was established under the WPA during the great Depression.

Pearlie's artwork has been described as a mixture of abstract, modern and expressionism. Her influences range from Jackson Pollack, Richard Dempsey to Dale Chiluly. Pearlie has worked in a variety of mediums but more often <http://www.pearlietaylorgallery.com/>chooses acrylics for the depth of color and her wet in wet painting style.

Pearlie is the recipient of the African American Alliance of the Arts Award for Excellence in Abstract Art. In 2008 her paintings were recognized by The Museum of Science and Industry Black Creativity Exhibit.

Pearlie's art exhibitions include the DuSable Museum, Highland Park Arts Center, Highland Park, IL, University of Illinois at Chicago, National Black Fine Arts Show in New York, Chicago Jazz Festival, Macy's, Chicago, Illinois, Cubano International in Toulouse, France.

Pearlie's art work has been published in Brides Noir Bridal Magazine (2007), Chicago GRO and Better Homes and Gardens Magazine (2006).

Her artwork is currently being shown at Gallery Guichard in Chicago.

## **Exhibitions**

**Gold Coast Fair – Chicago, IL 2010**  
**Lake Meadows Art Festival – Chicago, IL 2010**  
**DuSable Museum, Chicago, IL, 2010**  
**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority (Chgo Chapter) “The Audacity of Art”, Chicago, IL 2010**  
**University of Illinois at Chicago, African American Cultural Center - 2009**  
**Noyes Cultural Arts Center, “Beyond Race and Gender”, Evanston, IL, 2009**  
**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority (Chgo Chapter) “The Audacity of Art”, Chicago, 2009**  
**Sisters and Friends - Fine Arts Show, Bloomington, IL 2009**  
**South Side Community Art Center, 44<sup>rd</sup> Annual Art Auction, Chicago, IL 2009**  
**Highland Park Arts Center, Highland Park, IL 2009**  
**University of Illinois at Chicago, African American Cultural Center - 2009**  
**National Black Fine Arts Show - New York, 2008**  
**Macy’s – Chicago, IL 2008**  
**Sisters and Friends - Afrocentric Fine Arts Show, Bloomington, IL, 2008**  
**South Side Community Art Center, 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Art Auction, Chicago, IL 2008**  
**Museum of Science and Industry , “ Black Creativity” Chicago, 2 IL 008**  
**Lake Meadows Art Festival – Chicago, 2008**  
**Hyde Park Art Center, “Not Just Another Pretty Face”, Chicago, IL 2008**  
**Lake Meadows Art Festival – Chicago, IL 2007**  
**National Black Fine Arts Show - New York, 2007**  
**South Side Community Art Center, 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Art Auction, Chicago, IL 2007**  
**Mason Murer Gallery, Embrace: National Black Arts Festival, Atlanta, Ga., 2007**  
**Chicago Jazz Festival Art Exhibit – 2007**  
**South Side Community Art Center, “Three Shades of Purple” - Chicago, 2 IL 006**  
**Fisk University Alumni Assn. Annual Art Exhibition - Flossmoor, IL 2006**  
**South Side Community Art Center, 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Art Auction, Chicago, IL 2006**  
**ETA Theatre Exhibition, Chicago, 2006**  
**Gallery Guichard, Art di Gras Anniversary Exhibition - Chicago, IL 2006**  
**Chicago State University, Falling Leaves Exhibition - 2006**  
**Chicago Cultural Center “Later Impressions” exhibit – Chicago, IL 2006**  
**R.A.W. – Vision Fine Art Show, Chicago, 2006**  
**University of Illinois at Chicago, African American Cultural Center - 2006**  
**Cubano International – Toulouse, France, 2006**  
**University of Illinois at Chicago, African American Cultural Center - 2005**  
**Allerton Crown Plaza, Health for Humanity Opera Gala Chicago, IL 2005**  
**South Shore Cultural Center, Soul of a Woman - Chicago, IL 2005**  
**Northern Trust Bank, Cook County Bar Association - Chicago, IL 2005**  
**FAMU Arts and Education Gala - Chicago Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL 2005**  
**South Side Community Art Center, 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Art Auction - Chicago, IL 2005**  
**South Side Community Art Center, “Reconnect “ Art Exhibit - Chicago, IL 2005**  
**South Shore Cultural Center, Jazz Unites Inc. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Awards Gala - Chicago, IL 2005**  
**Gallery Guichard Grand Opening “Fingerprints Exhibit”, Chicago, IL 2005**  
**Summer Arts Festival “Around the Coyote”, Gallery Romain, Chicago, IL 2005**  
**R.A.W. - Vision Fine Art Show, Chicago, IL 2005**

**South Shore Cultural Center, ( Chicago Artist Month) Chicago, IL 2005**  
**Northern Trust Bank, Chicago, Cook County Bar Association – Chicago, IL 2004**  
**South Side Community Art Center, 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Art Auction - Chicago, IL 2004**  
**South Shore Cultural Center, Cultural Journey II - Chicago, IL 2004**  
**Real Art Work (RAW) - Vision Fine Art Show, Chicago, IL 2004**  
**Nat. African American Military Academy, 3rd Annual “Art at the Academy” - 2004**  
**South Shore Cultural Center, Cultural Journey I - Chicago, IL 2003**  
**National African American Military Academy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Art at the Academy” – Chicago, IL 2003**  
**Second Presbyterian Church Annual “Taste of South Loop”, Chicago, IL 2003**

### **Solo Exhibitions**

**University of Illinois at Chicago, African American Cultural Center – 2009**  
**University of Illinois at Chicago, African American Cultural Center - 2005**